(iii) Issuance of letter to third employee, Iswar Singh s/o Purna Chandra Singh, (SI. No. 12) to demolish the illegal construction or to refund the case compensation of Rs. 50,000/- paid to him *in lieu of* the plot at resettlement site.

(iv) In respect of the other illegal occupants, the Area Management has issued letters directing them to vacate the impunged land.

Privatisation of coal mining

2402. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal users make a strong case for privatization of mining to deal with the shortage of coal in sustained manner;

(b) whether this issue was discussed at a higher level meeting convened with the representatives from the Ministries of Power, Steel, Railways, Fertilizers besides coal users;

(c) whether Government have decided to open up mining sector to private and foreign investment and have approved Rs. 4000 crores of FDI in Coal Sector; and

(d) if so, to what extent these decisions would help to meet deficit in high value minerals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) to (d) In 1993, the Government, through an amendment to the Coal Mines (Nationalization) Act, 1973, (CMN), has allowed captive mining of coal to Indian companies engaged in certain specified/notified end uses.

Since 1997, upto 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Indian companies engaged in power generation and upto 74% in those engaged in production of Iron & Steel or cement has been allowed. Upto 100% FDI is also allowed in Indian companies engaged in processing/beneficiation of coal. The Government has granted approvals for FDI valued at Rs. 161 crore (approximately) so far in the coal sector.

In April 2000, the Government Introduced a Bill, in the Rajya Sabha, to amend the CMN Act, 1973 to, *inter-alia,* allow Indian companies mining of coal for own consumption, sale or for any other purpose.

Addition in production of Coal as a result of above dispensations would significantly reduce the gap between the demand and supply of Coal.

Coal production in the country

2403. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand of coal in the country is fully met by the domestic production;

(b) the details regarding the mine-wise production and the country's annual demand of coal; and

(c) the details of import of coal for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The details of mine-wise production for the year 2003-04 is as under:

Open Cast Mines	298.412 million tonnes (Provisional)
Underground Mines	62.756 million tonnes (Provisional)

The demand of coal as finalized by Planning Commission for the year 2004-05 is 404.19 million tonnes.

(c) The details of import of coal for the last three years is as under:—

(figures in million tonnes)

2001-02	20.55
2002-03	23.26
2003-04 (Provisional)	21.50